



CALIFORNIA'S STEM CELL AGENCY

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-02

**A RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD
OF THE CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE FOR REGENERATIVE MEDICINE
HONORING SENATOR ART TORRES (RET.) FOR HIS SERVICE TO
THE CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE FOR REGENERATIVE MEDICINE,
STEM CELL RESEARCH, AND CALIFORNIA PATIENTS**

WHEREAS, Senator Torres holds a Bachelor's degree from University of California, Santa Cruz and a Juris Doctorate from University of California, Davis School of Law;

WHEREAS, Senator Torres served as a John F. Kennedy teaching fellow at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government Institute of Politics in 1973;

WHEREAS, Senator Torres was elected to become the University of California Regent Designate on July 1, 2020 and then Alumni Regent and President of the Alumni Associations of the University of California on July 1, 2021;

WHEREAS, Senator Torres serves as one of five members of the board of Covered California, which oversees Obamacare in California, and was appointed to a second four-year term in 2020 by the California State Senate;

WHEREAS, Senator Torres served as a member and President of the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, appointed by then-Mayor Gavin Newsom in 2010;

WHEREAS, Senator Torres served as a member of the board of the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency, appointed by the late Ed Lee, Mayor of San Francisco, to a four-year term in 2017;

WHEREAS, Senator Torres was the longest-serving state Democratic Party Chair in United States history between 1996 and 2009;

WHEREAS, Senator Torres served twenty years in the California Legislature, where he chaired the Assembly Health Committee and the Senate Insurance Committee, created the Senate Toxics Committee and served as its first Chair, and chaired the UC

Admissions Committee. He served in the California State Assembly from 1974 to 1982, and in the California State Senate from 1982 to 1994;

WHEREAS, Senator Torres authored the California Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986, known as Proposition 65, which protects our drinking water from carcinogens. This proposition helped create the sole toxic reporting repository that helps scientists determine environmental and health impacts, which Dr. Eric Roberts called a “data source that really no one else has on the planet;”

WHEREAS, Senator Torres helped appropriate university research funding at the height of the AIDS crisis in 1982 with Dr. Marcus Conant, before the severity of the epidemic was recognized, and advocated for insurance reimbursement for breast cancer treatments;

WHEREAS, Senator Torres currently serves as the Vice Chair of the One Legacy Foundation, the largest organ transplant foundation in the US, headquartered in Los Angeles, and has been on the board since 1996;

WHEREAS, Senator Torres was appointed by the University of San Francisco as its Diversity Scholar Visiting Professor teaching in the Nursing Graduate program in 2016;

WHEREAS, for over 40 years, Senator Torres has confronted complex issues and stood up for those without a voice. He has authored crucial initiatives in health care, education, the environment, and human rights, and has served in the private and public sectors;

WHEREAS, in 2009 then-Lieutenant Governor Gavin Newsom and Treasurer Bill Lockyer nominated Senator Torres to serve as Vice Chair of CIRM’s Governing Board, a position to which he was elected by the Governing Board.

WHEREAS, as Vice Chair of CIRM’s Governing Board, Senator Torres has served on the Grants and Standards working groups and served as the inaugural Chair of the Accessibility and Affordability Working Group. Senator Torres has also served on numerous subcommittees and has led CIRM’s government relations efforts;

WHEREAS, due to Senator Torres’ vast experience, he was unanimously reelected to a final term as Vice Chair of CIRM in 2016;

WHEREAS, Senator Torres, through his experience, commitment, knowledge, and leadership, contributed greatly to the momentum of discovery and future therapies, which will be the ultimate outcome of the dedicated work of the researchers receiving CIRM funding; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Governing Board of the California Institute for Regenerative Medicine, on behalf of the people of the State of California, wishes to express its deepest gratitude to Senator Torres for his service on CIRM's Governing Board and for his dedication to the advancement of stem cell research and to the mission of CIRM to accelerate world class science to deliver transformative regenerative medicine treatments in an equitable manner to a diverse California and world.

This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its approval.

Date Approved: _____

Signed: _____

Chairman, Governing Board
California Institute for Regenerative Medicine